

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method for storing scanned documents to a media comprising:
  - coding a personal identification number (PIN) onto said media;
  - inserting said media into a scanner;
  - verifying said personal identification and activating said scanner;
  - scanning at least one document; and
  - storing said scanned documents on said media.
2. A method as in claim 1 wherein said coding includes a manufacturer's identification.
3. A method as in claim 1 wherein said coding includes a retailer's identification.
4. A method as in claim 1 wherein said coding includes store identification.
5. A method as in claim 1 wherein said coding includes a manufacturer's identification, retailer's identification, and store identification.
6. A method as in claim 1 wherein said coding includes an encrypted portion and an unencrypted portion.
7. A method for storing scanned documents to a media comprising:
  - coding a personal identification number (PIN) on to said storage media;
  - decoding said personal identification number;

authorizing a scanning operation based on said personal identification number;

scanning at least one document; and

storing said scanned documents onto said media.

8. A method for storing scanned documents to a media comprising:

coding a first personal identification number (PIN) onto said storage media at a media manufacturing location;

coding a second personal identification number onto said storage media at a retailer location;

decoding said personal identification number on a scanner;

authorizing a scanning operation based on said personal identification number;

scanning at least one document; and

storing said scanned documents onto said media.

9. A method for collecting money for scanning documents to a media comprising:

coding a personal identification number (PIN) onto said storage media;

selling said storage media to a customer;

decoding said personal identification number at a scanner;

authorizing a scanning operation based on said personal identification number;

scanning at least one document; and

storing said scanned documents onto said media.

10. A method for collecting money for scanning documents to a media comprising:

coding a personal identification number (PIN) onto said storage media;

selling said storage media to a customer;  
decoding said personal identification number at a scanner;  
scanning at least one document; and  
authorizing storing said scanned document onto said media  
80 based on said personal identification number.

11. A media for storing images and authorizing operation of a scanner comprising:  
wherein said media is adapted to record digital information;  
a personal identification number (PIN) encoded on said media; and  
wherein said personal identification code authorizes  
operation of said scanner.

12. A scanner comprising:  
a reader for reading information contained on a media;  
a microprocessor for verifying a personal identification number (PIN) contained  
on said media and authorizing operation of said scanner; and  
a writer for writing scanned information onto said media.